

THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

OFFICE OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND BUSINESS REGULATION

**DEPARTMENT OF
TELECOMMUNICATIONS & ENERGY**

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September 29, 2000

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Re: Standard Offer Service Fuel Adjustment, D.T.E. 00-66, 00-67, 00-70

Dear Sirs:

Fitchburg Gas & Electric Light Company ("Fitchburg"), Massachusetts and Nantucket Electric Companies ("MECo"), and the NSTAR Companies⁽¹⁾ ("NSTAR"), (collectively "companies"), seek to adjust their standard offer service ("SOS") rates (and to make a corresponding change in default service rates)⁽²⁾ because the fuel cost thresholds have been exceeded.⁽³⁾ Specifically, Fitchburg requests authorization to implement a uniform cents per kilowatt-hour surcharge on its SOS rates, effective September 1, 2000. Fitchburg - Standard Offer Service Fuel Adjustment, D.T.E. 00-66. MECo and NSTAR similarly seek to increase their SOS rates effective October 1, 2000 and November 1, 2000, respectively.

MECo - Standard Offer Service Fuel Adjustment, D.T.E. 00-67, NSTAR - Standard Offer

Service Fuel Adjustment, 00-70.

Currently, the Department is reviewing the companies' filings.⁽⁴⁾ Therefore, until the Department's review is completed, the companies shall continue charging customers at the approved rates.

Sincerely,

James Connelly, Chairman

W. Robert Keating, Commissioner

Paul B. Vasington, Commissioner

Eugene J. Sullivan, Jr., Commissioner

Deirdre K. Manning, Commissioner

1. The NSTAR Companies are Boston Edison Company, Cambridge Electric Light Company and Commonwealth Electric Company.

2. Until otherwise directed, the Department has required electric companies to charge default service customers at the standard offer service charges. See, Letter to Massachusetts Electric Company dated June 1, 1999.
3. The companies' fuel cost thresholds are found in SOS tariffs, restructuring settlements, or backstop agreements with third-party suppliers.
4. The Department's review process precludes the effective dates requested by Fitchburg and MECo. See Fitchburg - Standard Offer Service Fuel Adjustment, D.T.E. 00-66, Notice (September 8, 2000); MECo - Standard Offer Service Fuel Adjustment, D.T.E. 00-67, Notice (September 8, 2000).